

Application No. 09/706,101
Filed: November 3, 2000
TC Art Unit: 3626
Confirmation No.: 5846

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) ~~A server system connectable to a network for generating a certificate of insurance, comprising:~~

~~a database of certificate of operable to store insurance related coverage information corresponding to each of a plurality of insured parties;~~

~~program code operable to receive security information and insurance policy information regarding at least one insured party;~~

~~program code a first user interface communicably coupled to the database and operable to determine if a first user is an insurance producer or insurer authorized to enter information into the database and, if the first user is authorized, to accept insurance coverage information corresponding to an insured party from the first user and to store said security information and said the accepted insurance policy coverage information regarding said at least one insured party in said the database in association with the insured party; and~~

~~program code operable to receive a request for a certificate of insurance with regard to said insurance policy information;~~

~~program code operable to perform a security check with regard to said request for said certificate of insurance, said security check including at least one security procedure defined by said security information regarding said insured party; and~~

~~program code a second user interface communicably coupled to the database and operable to:~~

~~accept an identification of one of the plurality of insured parties from a second user and to determine if the second user is a certificate requester, different than the insurance producer or insurer, authorized to receive a certificate of insurance related to the identified one of the plurality of insured parties; and~~

~~if the second user is authorized, generate for issuing a certificate of insurance describing at least a portion of the insurance coverage information stored in the database and corresponding to the identified one of the plurality of insured parties in response to said request in the event that said security check succeeds.~~

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2. (Currently Amended) The ~~server~~-system of claim 1, wherein:

the database is operable to store information about a plurality of passwords corresponding to at least one of the plurality of insured parties, each of the passwords being associated with a different subset of the insurance coverage information corresponding to the one of the plurality of insured parties; and

the second user interface is operable to accept~~said security procedure requires a password from the second user to enter said server system in order to request and to generate a~~the certificate of insurance such that the generated certificate of insurance contains a subset of the insurance coverage information associated with the entered passwords~~said insured party, and wherein said security information includes said password, and wherein said security check includes program code for receiving a password from a certificate requester and comparing said received password with said password within said security information.~~

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~server~~-system of claim 21, wherein:

the database is operable to store information about an approving party corresponding to at least a subset of the insurance coverage information corresponding to at least one of the plurality of insured parties;~~said security procedure requires approval of certificates associated with said insured party, wherein said security information indicates an approving party, and wherein~~

the second user interface is operative to~~said security check includes program code for sending an electronic message to said~~the approving party prior to generating the certificate of insurance, said~~the electronic message including at least a portion of a proposed certificate of insurance to be issued in association with said insured party, and to generate the certificate of insurance only if an approval response is received from the approving party.~~

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The server system of claim 43, wherein ~~said the~~ at least a portion of the proposed certificate of insurance included in said~~the~~ electronic message to the approving party is

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modifiable by said the approving party and the generated certificate of insurance is generated according to modifications made by the approving party to the at least a portion of the proposed certificate of insurance.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for issuing a ~~certificate~~certificates of insurance over a computer network, comprising:

~~receiving security information and insurance policy information regarding at least one insured party;~~

~~storing insurance coverage said security information and said insurance policy information regarding said corresponding to each of a plurality of at least one insured parties in a database of certificate of insurance related information;~~

~~determining if a first user is an insurance producer or insurer authorized to enter information into the database receiving a request for a certificate of insurance with regard to said insurance policy information;~~

~~if the first user is authorized, accepting insurance coverage information corresponding to an insured party from the first user, storing the accepted insurance coverage information in the database and associating the stored information with the insured party; performing a security check with regard to said request for said certificate of insurance, said security check including performing at least one security procedure defined by said security information regarding said insured party; and~~

~~accepting an identification of one of the plurality of insured parties from a second user, determining if the second user is a certificate requestor, different than the insurance producer or insurer, authorized to receive a certificate of insurance related to the identified one of the plurality of insured parties; and issuing a certificate of insurance in response to said request in the event that said security check succeeds~~

~~if the second user is authorized, generating a certificate of insurance describing at least a portion of the insurance coverage information stored in the database and corresponding to the identified one of the plurality of insured parties.~~

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7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, ~~further comprising: wherein~~

~~_____ said security procedure requires storing information about a plurality of passwords corresponding to at least one of the plurality of insured parties, each password being associated with a different subset of the insurance coverage information corresponding to the one of the plurality of insured parties; and~~

~~to enter a server system in order to request a certificate associated with said insured party, and wherein said security information includes said password, and further comprising:~~

~~_____ accepting a password from the second user and generating the certificate of insurance, such that the generated certificate of insurance contains a subset of the insurance coverage information associated with the entered password; receiving a password from a certificate requester; and comparing said received password with said password within said security information.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, ~~further comprising: wherein~~

~~_____ said security procedure requires storing information about an approving party corresponding to at least a subset of the insurance coverage information corresponding to at least one of the plurality of insured parties; of certificates associated with said insured party, wherein said security information indicates an approving party; and~~

~~_____ further comprising sending an electronic message to said the approving party prior to generating the certificate of insurance, said the electronic message including at least portion of a proposed certificate of insurance; to be issued in association with said insured party and~~

~~_____ generating the certificate of insurance only if an approval response is received from the approving party.~~

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 98, wherein ~~said the at least a portion of the proposed certificate of insurance included in said the electronic message to the approving party is modifiable by said the approving party; and wherein generating the certificate of insurance~~

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comprises generating the certificate of insurance according to modifications made by the approving party to the at least a portion of the proposed certificate of insurance.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~server~~-system of claim 1, ~~wherein comprising:~~

~~program code for receiving insurance type information related to a requested certificate;~~

~~program code for the second user interface is operative to accept proposed receiving text to be entered into a remarks box within said requested~~the generated certificate of insurance; and further comprising:

~~program code for operative to:~~

~~forming a complete sentence reflecting the proposed text and said insurance type information, at least a portion of the insurance coverage information stored in said the database and corresponding to the identified one of the plurality of insured parties; of certificate of insurance related information and said received text to be entered into a remarks box within said requested certificate, and for~~

~~entering said the complete sentence into said the remarks box within said requested~~the generated certificate of insurance, such that the complete sentence is not modifiable by the second user.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~server~~-system of claim 11, wherein ~~said the~~ program code for operative to forming a the complete sentence is responsive to whether or not any text was entered into said the remarks box within said requested the generated certificate of insurance.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~server~~-system of claim 11, wherein ~~said the~~ program code for operative to forming a the complete sentence is responsive to a selected one of a plurality of items listed within a pull-down menu on the second user interface.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~server~~-system of claim 13, wherein said pull-down menu is one of a plurality of pull down menus, wherein each of ~~said the~~ plurality of pull down menus is associated with an insurance type.

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15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, further comprising:

~~receiving insurance type information related to a requested certificate;~~

receiving proposed text to be entered into a remarks box within ~~said requested~~ the generated certificate of insurance;

forming a complete sentence reflecting ~~said the proposed text and insurance type information, said~~ at least a portion of the information stored in said the database and corresponding to the identified one of the plurality of insured parties; of certificate of insurance-related information and said received text to be entered into a remarks box within said requested certificate; and

entering ~~said the~~ complete sentence into ~~said the~~ remarks box within ~~said requested the generated certificate of insurance; and~~

preventing the complete sentence from being modified by the second user.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein ~~said step of forming said the~~ complete sentence is responsive to a determination of whether or not any text was entered into ~~said the~~ remarks box within ~~said requested the generated certificate of insurance.~~

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising:

presenting a pull-down menu to the second user; and wherein said step of

forming said the complete sentence is further responsive to a selected one of a plurality of items listed within ~~a the~~ pull-down menu.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein ~~said the~~ pull-down menu is one of a plurality of pull down menus, wherein each of ~~said the~~ plurality of pull down menus is associated with an insurance type.

19. (Currently Amended) The server-system of claim 1, wherein comprising:

~~program code for providing a producer the first user interface that permits a user to indicate an insured and that includes a list of insurance types, and for permitting said user to~~

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~~select~~accept an identification of at least one of said list of type of insurance types~~carried by a~~
corresponding one of the plurality of insured parties and to store the identified at least one type of
insurance in the database in association with the insured party;

~~— program code for associating said insured with said at least one type of insurance; and~~

~~program code for providing a requestor~~the second user interface that is operative to:

~~displays only the selected identified at least one type of insurance to a requestor in~~
~~response to the association of~~corresponding to the identified one of the plurality of insured parties;

~~allow the second user to select at least one of the displayed with the at least one type~~
~~of insurance; and~~

~~generate the certificate of insurance based on the selected at least one type of~~
insurance.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~server system~~ of claim 19, ~~further comprising~~wherein:

~~wherein said program code for providing said producer~~the first user interface is further
operable to input a selected minimum number of cancellation days and a maximum number of
cancellation days and to store the inputted minimum number of cancellation days and maximum
number of cancellation days in the database in association with the insured party;

~~— program code for associating the minimum and maximum number of cancellation days with~~
~~the insured;~~

~~wherein said program code for providing said requestor~~the second user interface further
includes program code for is operative to inputting a requested number of cancellation days;

~~— program code for comparing said requested number of cancellation days with said minimum~~
~~and maximum number of cancellation days in response to said association of said insured with said~~
~~minimum and maximum number of cancellation days; and~~

~~— program code for and~~generating an error message to said requestor interface in the event
that said the requested number of cancellation days is outside said the minimum and maximum
number of cancellation days.

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~server system~~ of claim 19, ~~further comprising~~wherein:

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~~wherein said program code for providing said producer~~the first user interface further includes ~~program code for~~is operative to inputting an indication that the words "Endeavor to" may be omitted from a cancellation clause in a certificate of insurance associated with the insured party and to store the indication in the database in association with the insured party;

~~program code for associating said indication with said insured;~~ and

~~wherein said program code for providing said requester~~the second user interface further includes ~~program code~~is operative, responsive to the association of said indication with said insured party, for preventing removal of the words "Endeavor to" in a cancellation clause of ~~the requested~~generated certificate of insurance associated with said insured.

22. (Currently Amended) The server system of claim 19, further comprising~~wherein~~:

~~wherein said program code for providing said producer~~the first user interface further comprises ~~program code for~~is operative to presenting a list of insurance options that includes general liability additional insured, general liability lessor additional insured, general liability vendor's additional insured, automobile comprehensive, automobile collision, automobile additional insured, automobile loss payee, other additional insured, other loss payee and other mortgagee, and ~~for~~to permitting the first user to select indication of at least one of said~~the~~ list of insurance options and to store the selected at least one insurance options in the database in association with the insured party;

~~program code for associating said indicated at least one of said insurance options with said insured;~~ and

~~wherein said program code for providing said requester~~the second user interface includes ~~program code~~is operative, responsive to said association of said indicated ~~the selected~~ at least one of said insurance options with said insured, ~~for~~to displaying only said~~the selected~~ indicated at least one of said insurance options.

23. (Currently Amended) The server system of claim 19, further comprising~~wherein~~:

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~~wherein said program code for providing said producer~~the first user interface further comprises program code for is operative to inputting a revised additional insured wording to be included in a the generated certificate of insurance for said insured;

~~program code for associating said revised wording with said insured; and~~

~~wherein said program code for providing said requester~~the second user interface further comprises program code for is operative to inserting said the revised wording into a the generated certificate of insurance in response to a indication of an additional insured option within said requester interface by the second user.

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~server-system~~ of claim 19, ~~further comprising~~wherein:

~~wherein said program code for providing said producer~~the first user interface further includes program code for is operative to inputting an indication that approval is required;

~~program code for associating said indication with an insured; and~~

~~wherein said program code for providing said requester~~the second user interface further includes program code for is operative to generating a request for approval in response to said the association of said indication that approval is required with said insured.

25. (Currently Amended) The ~~server-system~~ of claim 24, ~~further comprising~~wherein:

~~wherein said program code for providing said producer~~the first user interface further comprises program code for is operative to input an indicationing of an approver party;

~~program code for associating said approver party with said insured; and~~

~~wherein said program code for providing said requester~~the second user interface further includes program code for is operative to sending said a generated request for approval to said the approver party.

26. (Currently Amended) The ~~server-system~~ of claim 25, wherein ~~said generated~~the request for approval includes an electronic message transmitted to said the approver party, and wherein said the request for approval further enables said the approver party to view, change and approve a requested certificate of insurance.

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27. (Currently Amended) The ~~server~~-system of claim 19, further comprising:

program code operable to construct a sentence by combining a number of predetermined phrases in response to selection through ~~said requestor~~the second user interface of at least one insurance characteristic, wherein ~~said~~the sentence is entered in a text field appearing on a requested certificate of insurance.

28. (Currently Amended) The ~~server~~-system of claim 27, further comprising:

program code operable to prevent certain ~~any of a~~ predetermined ~~set of~~ words ~~from being~~ ~~inserted~~entered through ~~said requestor~~the second user interface from appearing on ~~said requested~~the generated certificate of insurance.

29. (Withdrawn) A server system connectable to a network, comprising:

program code for providing a registered party interface, wherein said registered party interface is operable to input a first set of insurance requirements for a job;

program code for associating said first set of insurance requirements with said job;

program code for providing a requestor interface, wherein said requestor interface is operable to display said first set of insurance requirements for said job in response to said association of said first set of insurance requirements and said job, wherein said requestor interface is further operable to input insurance policy information; and

program code for comparing said insurance policy information with said first set of insurance requirements, and for generating a certificate of insurance within a message to a first registered party including the results of said comparison.

30. (Withdrawn) The server system of claim 29, further comprising:

program code for storing said insurance policy information in association with said insured;

wherein said program code operable to provide said requestor interface is further operable to input an identifier associated with said insured; and

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program code, responsive to receipt of said identifier associated with said insured and said association of said insurance policy information with said insured, for automatically comparing said insurance policy information with said insurance requirements, and for generating a certificate of insurance within a message to a registered party including the results of said comparison.

31. (Withdrawn) The server system of claim 29, further comprising:

program code for storing said insurance policy information in association with an insured;

wherein said program code operable to provide said requestor interface is further operable to input an identifier associated with said insured; and

program code, responsive to receipt of said identifier associated with said insured and said association of said insurance policy information with said insured, for:

a. automatically comparing said insurance policy information with a second set of insurance requirements for generating a certificate of insurance; and

b. providing results of said comparison of said insurance policy information with said second set of insurance requirements within an electronic mail message to a second registered party associated with said second set of insurance requirements.

32. (Withdrawn) The server system of claim 31, wherein said program code, responsive to receipt of said identifier associated with said insured and said association of said insurance policy information with said insured, is further operable to generate a certificate of insurance to a third party using said insurance policy information.

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33. (New) The system of claim 2, further comprising:

a third user interface communicably coupled to the database and operable to determine if a third user is one of the plurality of insured parties and, if so, to accept at least one password and an identification of a subset of the insurance coverage information stored in the database and associated with the third user and to associate the at least one password with the identified subset of the insurance coverage information.

34. (New) The system of claim 3, wherein:

the first user interface is operable to accept approval criteria and to store the approval criteria in the database; and

the second user interface is operable, responsive to the approval criteria and to at least one selection made by the second user, to determine whether to send the electronic message and require the approval response before generating the certificate of insurance.